

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
FALL SEMESTER 2006**

**EDUC 320-3
INSTRUCTIONAL PSYCHOLOGY
(E01.00)**

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THURSDAY 4:30-8:20 PM
WMC 3260

PREREQUISITE: EDUC 220

DESCRIPTION: Research in instructional psychology examines aspects of both teaching and learning. This course will address questions such as: How do students learn when an instructor tries to guide the learning process? How do ways of thinking about teaching influence students' learning and motivation? Students will gain knowledge and skills that contribute to planning, delivering and evaluating teaching. The course will also emphasize ways to promote desired learning outcomes. This course extends classical experimental research about cognition and motivation and brings it into the context of one of our most influential and pervasive institutions, the classroom.

This course will draw heavily on the content covered in EDUC 220 (some students in previous terms have found it useful to **keep their 220 textbook as an additional resource for 320**) and will focus on deeper understanding of the theories and applications, based on research. Key objectives of this course include developing skills in a) reading and comprehending educational research articles and b) designing instruction guided and justified by research.

OBJECTIVES: There are three overall objectives of the course:

1. gain knowledge of theories and research-based findings in instructional psychology
2. build skill in reading research articles and reviews of research
3. develop skills in designing instruction guided and justified by research.

TOPICS

- Models of cognition, motivation, metacognition, self-regulated learning, and knowledge transfer
- Designing instruction: texts, teaching, tutoring and technologies

EVALUATION Grades will be based on several criteria. Details will be provided the first day of class.

- Discussions (online & in-class)
- Paper(s) & peer feedback activities
- Quizzes

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Alexander, P.A. (2006). Psychology in Learning and Instruction. New Jersey: Prentice Hall. ISBN 0-13-974874-1.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Students will be expected to find and read additional peer-reviewed research articles to complete assignments.
- This course will require students to use WebCT and to participate frequently in online course discussions. Students may also have the opportunity to use other technologies that may be helpful in mastering course materials.

SFU POLICIES ON ACADEMIC HONESTY

Please note that all SFU policies on academic honesty apply in this course (especially T10.02 Code of Academic Honesty and T10.03 Academic Dishonesty and Misconduct Procedures). Each student is responsible for becoming familiar with these policies. Students are also strongly encouraged to review the information on plagiarism on the SFU Library website – it's not as straightforward as you might think!

Note: There will be **NO** tutorials the first week of classes.

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